

Word on Wednesday Bible Study

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March 5, 2025

"Being Kind and Showing Kindness"

"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you." (Ephesians 4:32 NASB1995)

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32 ESV)

David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will surely **show kindness** to you for the sake of your father Jonathan and will restore to you all the land of your grandfather Saul; and you shall eat at my table regularly."
(2 Samule 9:7 NASB1995)

"Don't be afraid," David said to him, "for I will surely **show you kindness** for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table."
(2 Samuel 9:7 ESV)

I. Introduction

- A. The Old Testament definition of kind.
 - 1. To show mercy, act with loyalty and faithfulness, and be good and gracious.
- B. New Testament definition of kind.
 - 1. To be good, useful, and full of service to others.
- C. Old Testament definition of kindness.
 - 1. Lovingkindness and mercy and being fair.
- D. New Testament definition of kindness.
 - 1. Being gentle, fair, possessing a quality of goodness, and being considerate of others.
- E. Israel was commanded to return to God, observe kindness [emulate God's love and be fair], and be righteous in their dealings with others. (Hosea 12:6)

- F. God requires us to love **kindness** [be fair], be honest and just in dealing with others, and do it with humility. (Micah 6:8)
- G. Zechariah addressed the leaders of Judah, calling upon them to administer true justice and practice **kindness** [show mercy] and compassion to others. (Zachariah 9:7)

II. God is Kind

- A. God extended **kindness** [mercy] to Joseph when he was in jail by giving him favor with the chief jailer. (Genesis 39:21)
- B. If we are **kind**, [show mercy] God will be **kind** (show mercy) to us. (Psalm 18:25)
- C. God is **kind** [good and benevolent] to ungrateful and evil people. (Luke 6:35)
- D. God was intentional in being **kind** [showing goodwill and favor] toward us. (Ephesians 4:5, 9)
- E. God was tolerant and patient with us, using His **kindness** [goodness and gentleness] to lead us to repentance. (Romans 2:4)

III. The Qualities of a Kind Person

- A. Remembering others when we have an opportunity to use influence. (Genesis 40:14)
- B. Not holding a grudge when someone has wronged us, comforting them in a loss and speaking to them kindly [gently] when they are hurting. (Genesis 50:21)
- C. A desirable quality in is man is **kindness** [steadfast love]. (Proverbs 19:22)
- D. Dorcas was consistent in her **kindness** [benevolence] toward others, especially the poor or less fortunate. (Acts 9:36)
- E. Approachable, fair, and gentle. (Acts 24:4)

- F. Demonstrate sacrificial and unconditional love.
(I Corinthians 13:4)
- G. Live a life of purity, understand the gospel, possess patience, full of the Spirit and having a love that is genuine.
(2 Corinthians 6:6)
- H. Live a Spirit-filled life that has produced the quality of **kindness** [gentleness]. (Galatians 5:22)
- I. Compassionate, understanding, and forgiving because God forgave us for Christ's sake. (Ephesians 4:32)

IV. The Portrait of a Kind Man (2 Samuel 9:1 – 13)

- A. David did not let a contentious and negative history with Saul prevent him from keeping his promise of **kindness** [loyalty and faithfulness] to Jonathan. *"Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him **kindness** [loyalty and faithfulness] for Jonathan's sake?"* (2 Samuel 9:1)
- B. David wanted to show **kindness** [lovingkindness] to Saul's family because of his relationship with Jonathan. *"... that I may show him kindness [lovingkindness] for Jonathan's sake?"* (2 Samuel 9:1)
- C. David was intentional about locating the offspring of Saul. *"And the king said, 'Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the **kindness** [lovingkindness] of God to him?'"* (2 Samuel 9:2, 3)
- D. When David found out that Jonathan had a son who was living, he immediately sent for him and had him brought from Lo-debar to Jerusalem. *"The king said to him, 'Where is he?' And Ziba said to the king, 'He is ... at Lo-debar.'" Then King David sent and brought him from the house of Machir... in Lo-debar.* (2 Samuel 9:4, 5)
- E. When Mephibosheth came to David, he fell in front of him out of respect, but David consoled him and told him not to fear, he wanted to show him kindness because of his father.

*"And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and paid homage. ... And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you **kindness** [lovingkindness] for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." (2 Samuel 9:6, 7).*

- F. David showed kindness to Mephibosheth in three ways: (1) he gave Mephibosheth everything that had previously belonged to his grandfather Saul, (2) Ziba and his family had to take care of the property and land and (3) Mephibosheth would eat with David regularly. *"Then the king called Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master's grandson. And you and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him and shall bring in the produce, that your master's grandson may have bread to eat. But Mephibosheth, your master's grandson, shall always eat at my table." (2 Samuel 9:9, 10)*
- G. David treated Mephibosheth like one of his own sons. *"... So Mephibosheth ate at David's table, like one of the king's sons. (2 Samuel 9:11)*
- H. Because of David's kindness, Saul's great-grandson, Jonathan's son, was blessed, Ziba's household became Mephibosheth's servants, and Mephibosheth went from hiding in Lo-debar to living freely in Jerusalem and eating regularly with David. *"And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Mica. And all who lived in Ziba's house became Mephibosheth's servants. So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king's table. (2 Samuel 9:12, 13)*

"Be Kind to One Another and Show Kindness"